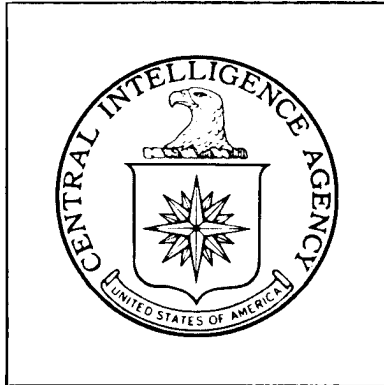


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**DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE**

**Industrial Facilities
(Non-Military)**

Basic Imagery Interpretation Report

Pei-ching Experimental Chemical Industry Plant

Pei-ching, China



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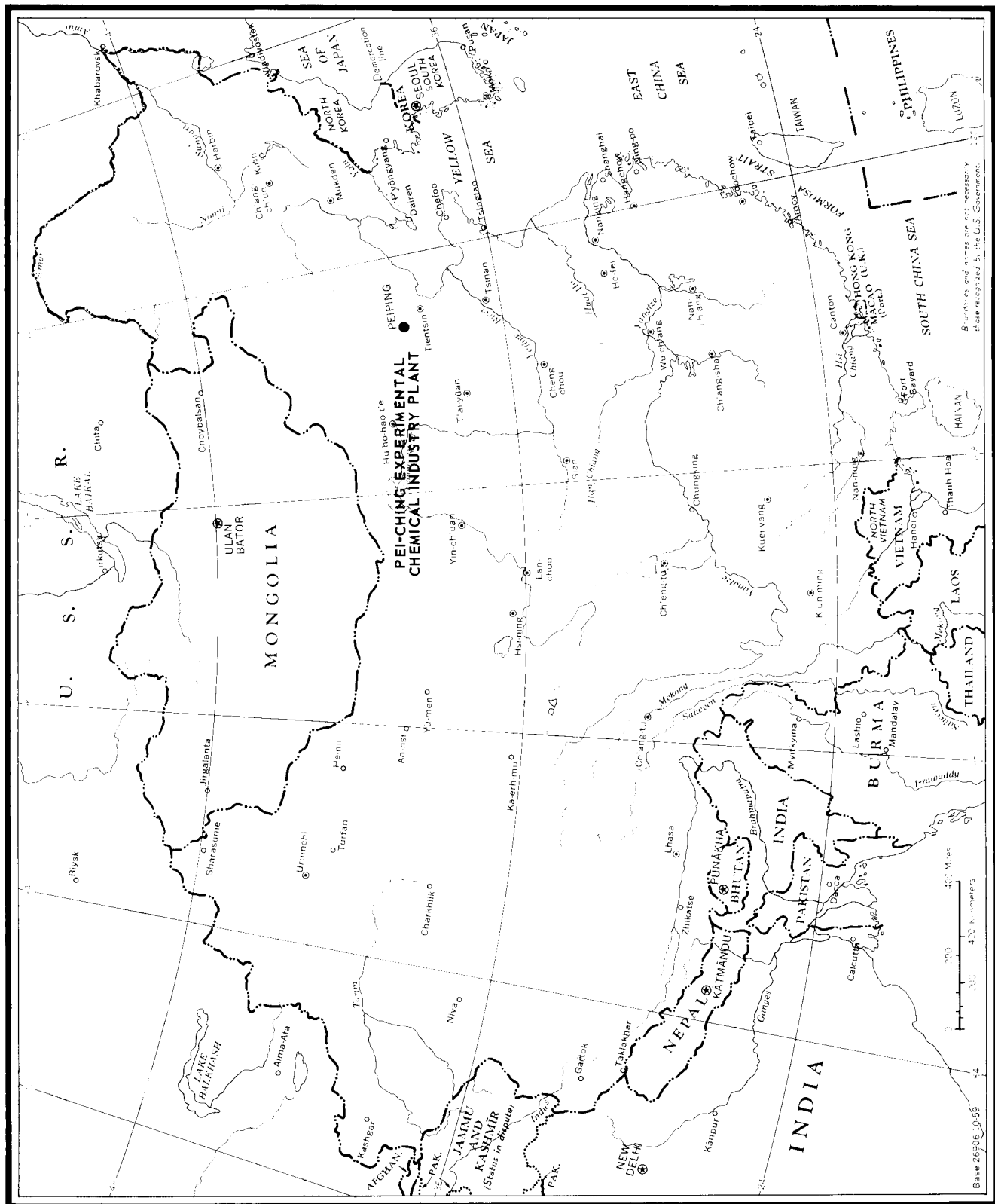
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FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

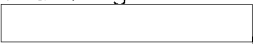


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INTRODUCTION

Pei-ching Experimental Chemical Industry Plant is located approximately 4 nautical miles southeast of the center of Pei-ching (see Figure 1). It is part of a large industrial complex which also contains Pei-ching Chemical Plant No. 2  Pei-ching Coke and Chemical Plant , and Pei-ching Oxygen Plant  Electric power is received from the regional grid.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION

Physical Features

The plant occupies about 110 acres in an area measuring approximately 3,300 by 1,475 feet (see Figures 2 and 3). It is served by a spur from the Chang-hsin-tien to Nan-kou rail line. A hard-surface road adjoins the west side of the plant.

Operational Functions

The plant appears to consist of pilot plants which conduct research and development in industrial processes utilizing ammonia and carbon dioxide as feed materials. The products formed in the fertilizer processes are ammonia, ammonium bicarbonate and urea. Methanol and possibly carbonic acid are also produced. The flow process for the plant is shown in Figure 4.

Several factors in the design of this plant indicate it is primarily a research and development installation. The production units appear to be of a transitional design between plants provided to China by the USSR and chemical plants built later from Chinese designs. Instead of the usual process flow at a chemical production facility, this plant appears to have separate, self-contained production areas. Each area has its own support facilities, whereas a typical Chinese chemical plant has support facilities common to many production areas. This plant produces a wide range of products using carbon dioxide and ammonia as feed materials, while at a chemical production facility usually only one product is made using these materials.

An adjacent fabrication area (Area A, Figure 3) appears to be associated with the chemical plant since it is within the partially walled boundary of the plant. The product of this area has not been determined. A possible function is the manufacture of production equipment needed for the associated pilot plants.

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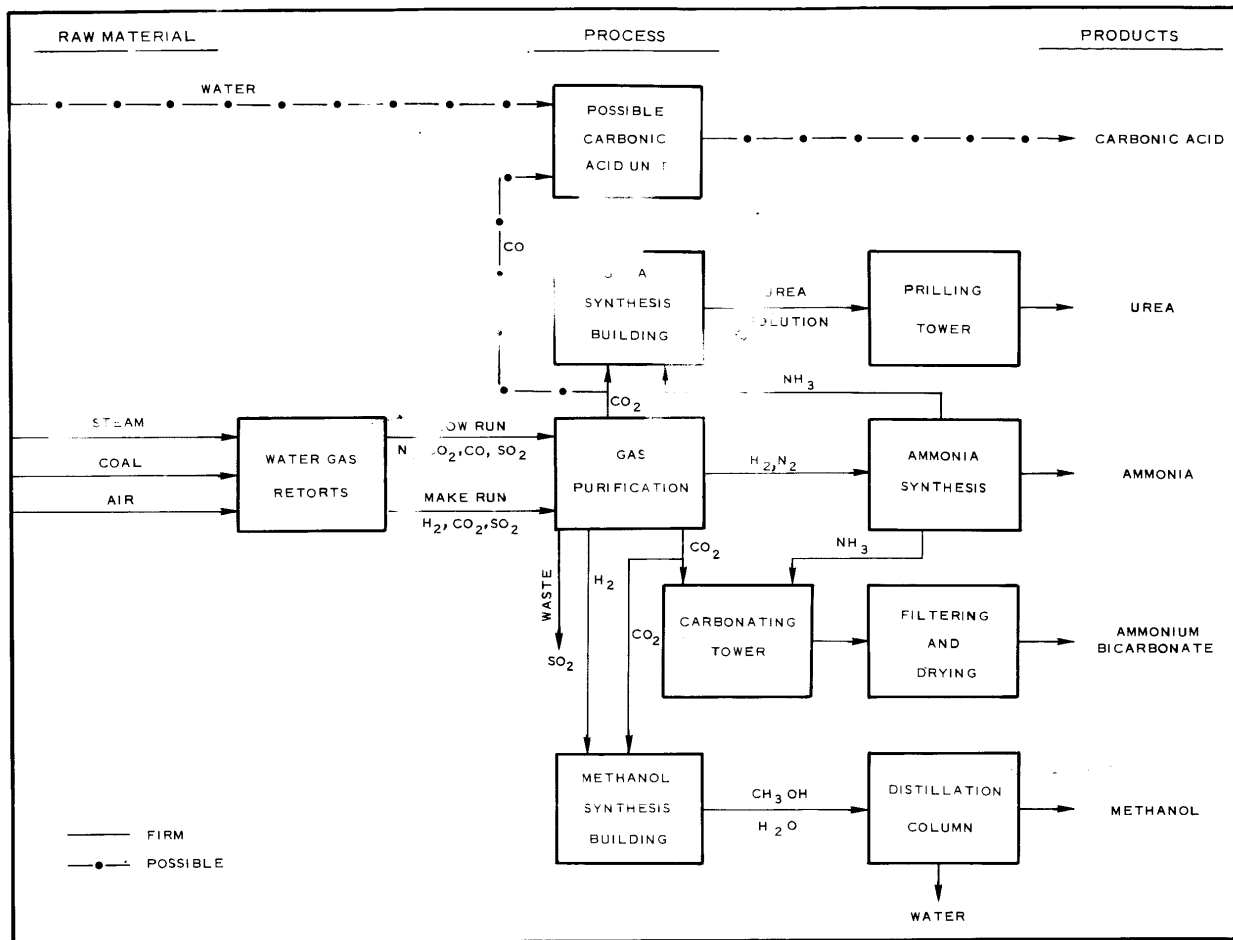


FIGURE 4. PROCESS FLOW AT PEI-CHING EXPERIMENTAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRY PLANT.

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25X1Construction Chronology

The plant, including the fabrication area, was in the early stages of construction when it was first seen on overhead photography in August 1961. By August 1962 the storage and support facilities were completed. Between August 1962 and September 1964, facilities were completed in the ammonia synthesis area, the urea production area and the gas production area. The possible carbonic acid production unit is in the gas production area. A fabrication building and an administration building were completed in the fabrication area. Between September 1964 and May 1967 the ammonium bicarbonate facility was constructed. The methanol facility, a possible forge building and a fabrication building were added between May 1967 and August 1969. Since that time only minor support buildings have been added.

Operational Status

The plant was not in operation when seen on photography in August 1961 and August 1962. It was in operation in September 1964 as indicated by coal in the stockpile and rail cars within the plant area. The plant was operating on all subsequent photographic coverage through April 1970. The ammonium bicarbonate facility and the methanol facility probably went into operation upon completion; there are no visible production indicators for these facilities.

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Map

ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet M0381-IHL, 4th edition,
November 1965, Scale 1:200,000 (SECRET/

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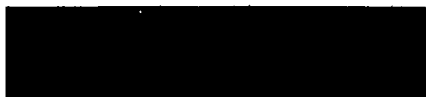
Requirement

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